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## GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE *FUN* *damental rights*

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# Cyndi Lauper on giving a voice to those who need it most

As an artist, Cyndi Lauper is one of the most decorated performers of her generation, earning Grammy Awards for her timeless hits, a Tony Award for her work on the hit Broadway musical “Kinky Boots” and even an Emmy for her hilarious guest appearance on “Mad About You.” But as an advocate and an activist, the 66-year-old star has proven herself to be a legend for much more important reasons.

Lauper has been a true LGBTQ champion over the years, with her song “True Colors” becoming an anthem for the community. It also inspired the name of her nonprofit, True Colors United, which she founded in 2008. The organization works on addressing the issue of youth homelessness, specifically aiding members of the LGBTQ community, who make up 40 percent of America’s homeless youth population.

Each year, True Colors United hosts “Cyndi Lauper & Friends: Home for the Holidays,” a benefit concert in support of the organization. This year, the show returns on Tuesday, Dec. 10, at The NOVO at L.A. Live in Los Angeles with a stacked lineup of stars, including host Carson Kressley, Marilyn Manson, Billy Porter, Margaret Cho, Lily Tomlin, Kesha, Henry Rollins, Brandi Carlile and more.

Lauper has also recently lent her voice to the PsO at Work campaign by Novartis. Through the campaign’s website as well as using the hashtag #PsOatWork on social media, patients struggling with psoriasis can share their stories and find resources as they seek solutions for keeping their symptoms under control.

Ahead, Lauper talks more about her struggles with psoriasis, advocating for the LGBTQ community, her new Netflix series with Jane Lynch and more.

**What inspired you to join the PsO at Work campaign?**



**I’m doing it because I’m one of 8 million people in America who have and are living with psoriasis. It’s an interesting campaign because it’s hard to hide while you work. Obviously, I can adjust my hours, but there are people who work in offices, banks, different jobs around the country, who go to work and have psoriasis. I know nobody talks about it, so that’s why I’m doing it.**

**For me, when I started to hear other people’s stories, it helped me to feel better. No. 1, that I wasn’t alone. And, No. 2, realize there’s many options out there and people handle it a lot of different ways. I finally found something that keeps my psoriasis under control and I have skin again. I’m so grateful that my skin feels like skin, looks like skin. It’s not awful. I’m not shedding. I’m not bleeding. I’m not totally inflamed. I don’t get freezing cold and hot all at once because I was so head to toe with it that I could no longer regulate my body temperature. I’m excited that I am now living with psoriasis under control. I think for a lot of people who are still not having great success with putting this under control, this website might be really just the thing to get them going.**

**How did psoriasis affect you as a creative person?**

**A lot. I didn’t know what to do for myself. I tried every cuckoo thing. I was on tour with Cher when I was covered from head to toe with it. I had some really weird, what I used to call “Sir Lancelot” outfit because I had to cover this and cover that, and long tight shirts that would hide the psoriasis. And then, of course, when I took it off my skin would come off. It was really very painful and it was hard.**

**I don’t know how I got through. I was seeing a Chinese doctor, so I was soaking my feet afterwards in the tea that he gave me and I was taking a bath in the tea. So basically I was detoxing pretty strong, plus running through an arena climbing like 12-foot stairs and singing and hitting it hard on one night. I had global amnesia. I didn’t know what happened to me. Then I realized, all the stuff I was doing that made my skin feel better was detoxing and I couldn’t do that and work. It’s really, really debilitating.**

**You’ve been a champion for the LGBTQ community for a long time.**

**What’s been the inspiration behind working on projects like True Colors**

**United and the Home for the Holidays benefit?**

**First of all, friends and family. I grew up watching my sister struggle with just being herself. I think that when I was pregnant and I started reading when the internet was new and I felt like Captain Kirk looking at it like it was all “Star Trek.” You could type something and somebody types something back at you from like another part of the country. I couldn’t even believe it. So, I started to read letter after letter of people who said that “True Colors” the song saved their life because they had been disenfranchised from their job, their family, from their friends. When you’re alone like that and feel suicidal – which a lot of people do, there’s still a lot of teenage suicide because people are different.**

**I grew up in the Civil Rights movement. I remember Dr. King and I remember what he said, that the arc of history leans toward justice. That is what always drove me on. I guess when I started working and meeting people from the Human Rights Campaign, especially one woman who worked there, Cathy Nelson, she was a great mentor. She taught me that you can change things,**

**and we did. We helped promote the hate crimes bill that was amended to include the LGBTQ community because of Matthew Shepard and [James Byrd Jr.]. I think that it’s important that you include everyone. A hate crime is a hate crime. For the LGBTQ community, they are targeted a lot. I felt that it was important. We worked and advocated. Information, that’s what people need. I, in my heart, believe that in America we are fair-minded people. We all came from immigrants, unless you’re Native American and you really got screwed. I think that, as an American, I always thought it was part of the privilege of being an American to participate. I always felt that you need to vote. You can’t complain if you don’t vote. You need to represent how you feel.**

**What can you tell us about the “Golden Girls”-style comedy you’re working on with Jane Lynch for Netflix?**

**I was working with this group Skydance, I really like those guys. They started to come down to all the concerts in L.A. We tried this other project, it didn’t work. Finally, because of my work, I’m up channel surfing and I watch a lot**

**of “Golden Girls,” plus “Mary Tyler Moore” when I find it and “The Honeymooners.” Those are the go-tos. And if it works out with the “Golden Girls,” I’m happy. I was watching it so I said to them, “Why not just reboot the “Golden Girls?”” But it’s not just a reboot. I was thinking: where are the “Golden Girls” of today? That was then. What about today? Where are we?**

**I’m like a feckless Sophia. I’m a jailbird in the show. It’s funny. And just like physically, Jane’s really tall and I’m really short. I’ve always been a big fan of “Rocky and Bullwinkle” too from the time I was young, so it kind of felt like we could be like Rocky and Bullwinkle, in a way. Jane Lynch, she’s awesome.**

**As an artist, as an advocate, what does the word legacy mean for you?**

**I don’t know. Everyone always says, “Oh, you’re an icon!” I don’t know what that is. I think that, for an artist, basically you just keep going. Of course, the accolades help you continue your work, but it’s got to be about the work first. Even when I first started – and I probably wasn’t that good – I still thought I was great because it felt great. As long as you feel that great thing coming through you, then you’ve got to continue. If you have a creative mind, then you’ve got to use it, otherwise it will choke you. I always look at it as you’ve got to keep going. I’ve been told no so many times, and you just got to look beyond the person telling you no and think, “Okay, I want to go here, how do I get there?” And make a plan. I always tell young artists, “Sometimes it takes eight years, sometimes it takes 10 years. The difference between people who make it and who don’t are the people who give up and the people who don’t give up.”**

*This interview has been edited and condensed for brevity and clarity.*  
**MATT JUUL**



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# Taylor Kitsch on his love of complex characters and his new film, '21 Bridges'

The thrilling action film opens this week.  
PAT KING

Taylor Kitsch has made a career of playing characters whose backs are against the wall. Ever since his star-turning role as the fiery-eyed Tim Riggins on NBC's "Friday Night Lights," Kitsch has embraced complexity in his projects rather than typical blockbuster flare. He's a searcher, and that aspect of his process can be seen in his recent role as Detective Paul Woodrrough in the second season of "True Detective" and, more recently, his nuanced portrayal of cult-leader David Koresh in the mini-series, "Waco." He continues this path in the new action film "21 Bridges" starring alongside Chadwick Boseman, Sienna Miller, J.K. Simmons and Stephan James.



The new film, directed by Brian Kirk, follows Kitsch's character Ray and partner Michael, played by James, as they are hired by a prominent New York drug dealer to rob his competition in a late night heist. Unfortunately, the job goes horribly wrong and the two are forced to shoot to freedom as they are instantly greeted by an army of cops on the scene.

With blood on their hands, the two drive off

furiously into the night to try and figure out what happened and make it through the night alive. Detective Andre Davis, played by Boseman, puts out an alert to close the city's 21 bridges (hence the title) to trap these cop killers on the run with only a five-hour grace period from the mayor before commuters wake up. From there, we are off to the races and the film never lets up until its close.

The pace of the film recalls the kind of action film you would skip school to see with your friends. It's pure rush without sacrificing brains or purpose. Kitsch agrees and was thrilled to be a part of this kind of film.

"I grew up on 'Heat' and, obviously later, when I started diving in and studying it was 'Mean Streets' and stuff like that," says Kitsch. "New York is like a character in

this one too. But I loved 'Heat' growing up and anything close to it. Those movies don't get made anymore. It's really rare so it was great to be a part of it in that sense."

As we follow Ray and Michael, we begin to find their motivations. The two are veterans feeling forgotten away from the battlefield and struggling to put things right in ways they feel their government has not. These nuances (and a clever twist) are reasons Kitsch feels "21 Bridges" is a Trojan Horse of an action film.

"I think without that humanity it just goes into a cliché action movie. I think that's what separates our film," Kitsch says.

"I think when you come from nothing and you have an opportunity, that's a once in a lifetime moment, and you have a chance to change the course of your life and your children's lives to get out of the Bronx and everything that it represents to these two guys," he adds. "To me, you can't blame them."

Kitsch's portrayal of Ray cuts to the bone and in one scene, he places down a sobriety chip with a shaky hand as he has a

chance to breathe in order to have a drink to calm his nerves. In that moment, you feel for Ray on a different level than you would have if he were just a one-dimensional thug. These are the types of layered characters Kitsch has been interested ever since researching David Koresh.

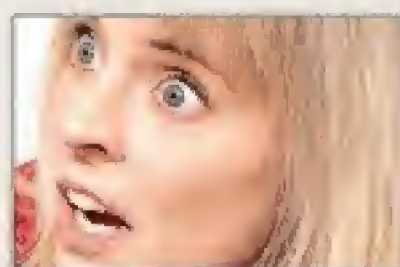
"The more layers to any character, you are going to gravitate towards [them]," says Kitsch. "Maybe it's because I've always been an underdog. I don't know. I love breaking that down and trying to find the whys and reasoning behind why someone would do something reprehensible as well. But it is subjective. Some people, if you completely erase, and this is quite close to impossible, your own judgement for a second and understand where this one person has come from in their struggles, this is what I love to do. Koresh taught me a lot about that in the prep for 'Waco'. Because I was bringing my own baggage in and casting judgement. Once I stopped doing that, it really set me free and I could marry myself emotionally to their stakes and not bringing my own to it. I think it's the same with Ray."

## BILL BLUMENREICH PRESENTS

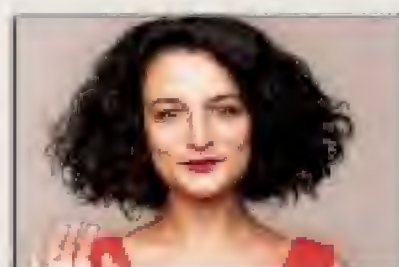
### THE WILBUR

#### LORE LIVE

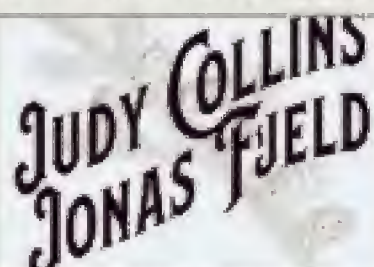
LORE PODCAST  
NOV 20



MARIA BAMFORD  
NOV 23



JENNY SLATE  
NOV 30



JUDY COLLINS  
DEC 1

DEVENDRA BANHART  
DEC 4  
STEPHEN LYNCH  
DEC 5  
CHRIS BOTTI  
DEC 6-7

WINDHAM HILL'S  
WINTER SOLSTICE  
DEC 8  
CHARLES  
LAQUIDARA  
DEC 10

SAL VULCANO  
DEC 12-13  
LEA DELARIA  
DEC 15  
BOB MARLEY  
DEC 27

JIMMY TINGLE  
DEC 28  
BRYAN CALLEN  
DEC 31  
CHRIS FLEMING  
JAN 4

### CHEVALIER



THE TEMPTATIONS &  
THE FOUR TOPS  
NOV 21



JENNIE GARTH & TORI  
SPELLING  
NOV 24



DARLENE LOVE  
DEC 1



JANE FONDA  
DEC 11

DOUBLE DARE LIVE!  
DEC 14  
BOB MARLEY  
DEC 27  
SHIN LIM  
JAN 08

THE PRINCESS BRIDE  
W/ CARY ELWES  
JAN 25  
ABBA THE CONCERT  
FEB 1  
GABRIEL IGLESIAS  
FEB 14 & 16

VIC DIBITETTO  
FEB 21  
BERT KREISCHER  
FEB 28-29  
BOYZ II MEN  
MAR 05

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MAR 6  
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## YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

Need some help in making holiday plans? We've got you covered. From festivals to concerts and more, here are the best things to do in Boston this weekend.

### ALSARAH & THE NUBATONES

Get ready to jam out at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The MFA is hosting a special concert with East African retro-pop music AlSarah along with her group the Nubatones on Thursday night. Nov. 21, 8 p.m., MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., mfa.org

### "FROZEN 2"

Don't let the weekend go without checking out Disney's follow-up to their animated hit, "Frozen." That's right, Elsa, Anna, Olaf and the gang are back for another chilly adventure. Be sure to bring the little ones to the "Frozen 2" track tour stop at Assembly Row on Friday afternoon for some sweet swag. Opens Nov. 22, various locations, movies.disney.com/frozen-2

### RICK ROSS

Haven't been to the new Big Night Live venue at TD Garden yet? What are you waiting for? The city's hippest new music venue will be hopping on Friday night as the boss Rick Ross takes over the



### BROCKHAMPTON

Agganis Arena will be rocking this weekend. Hit rap group Brockhampton returns to the venue on Sunday night as part of their "Heaven Belongs to you Tour." The group will be joined by special guest Slowthai. Nov. 24, 8 p.m., Agganis Arena, 925 Commonwealth Ave., agganisarena.com

spot for his "Port of Miami 2 Tour." Nov. 22, 9 p.m., Big Night Live, 110 Causeway St., bignightlive.com

### FOUND FOOTAGE FESTIVAL

This isn't your typical film festival. In celebration of its 15th anniversary, hosts Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett bring their hilarious showcase of found videos to the Brattle Theatre for one night only this weekend. See the debut of the Found Footage Festival, Volume

9 on Friday night. Nov. 22, 9:45 p.m., Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge, brattlefilm.org

### WINE RIOT 2019

Treat yourself to a glass or two of vino before the chaos of Thanksgiving begins. Wine Riot returns for its eighth year this weekend, giving Bostonians a chance to sip on wines from across the globe, as well as hang out with some of the best sommeliers in the city. The festivities will also include

head-to-head challenges, games, light bites and more. Nov. 23, 2 p.m., The Castle at Park Plaza, 130 Columbus Ave., wineriot.com

### BOSTON JAPAN FILM FESTIVAL

For a more traditional film festival, head to MIT this weekend. The Boston Japan Film Festival returns on Sunday to give locals a chance to check out some of the most innovative cinematic experiences coming out of Japan. Nov. 24, 1



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

### MARIA BAMFORD

Get ready to laugh this weekend with one of the best comics in the business. Veteran comedian and former "Lady Dynamite" star Maria Bamford returns to Boston on Saturday night to crack jokes at The Wilbur. Nov. 23, 7 p.m., The Wilbur, 246 Tremont St., thewilbur.com

p.m., MIT, 50 Vassar St., Cambridge, bostonjapanff.org

### JAY LENO

The veteran comic and Bay State native returns to the Boston area this weekend for a special celebration. The former "Tonight Show" host will stop by the Chevalier Theatre on Saturday night to sling jokes in honor of the venue's two year anniversary. Nov. 23, 7 p.m., Chevalier Theatre, 30 Forest St., Medford, chevaliertheatre.com

### JENNIE GARTH & TORI SPELLING

Relive the 1990s with the stars of "Beverly Hills, 90210." That's right, Jennie Garth and Tori Spelling are coming to town this weekend for a "Night to Remember." Stop by the Chevalier Theatre on Sunday night for this live talk show with the stars behind Kelly Taylor and Donna Martin, respectively. Nov. 24, 7 p.m., Chevalier Theatre, 30 Forest St., Medford, chevaliertheatre.com

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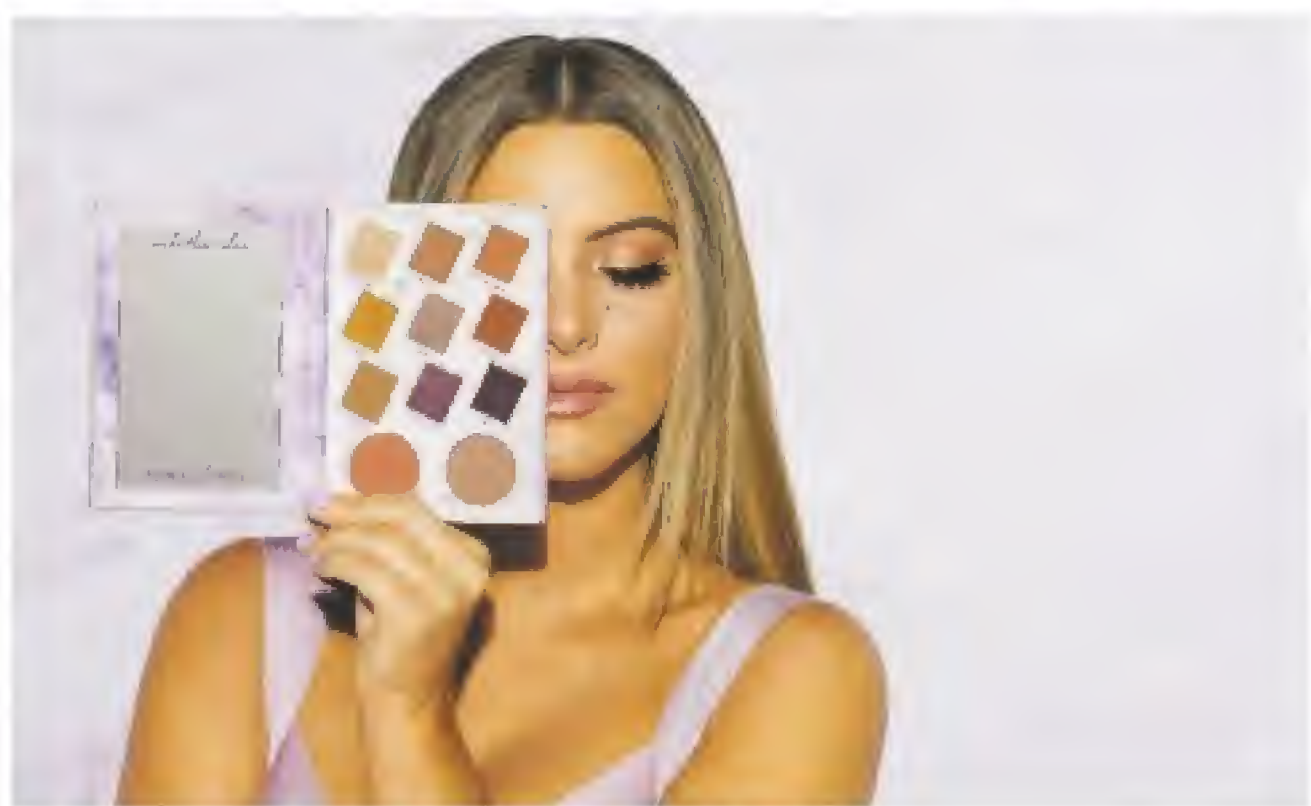


# Lele Pons debuts a Tarte Cosmetics collaboration

The new collection has three items, perfect for the everyday makeup lover. **BECCA GLASSER-BAKER**

Lele Pons has conquered the world of Vine, YouTube, Instagram, music and now, the beauty industry. Is there anything she can't do? Lele Pons just launched a beauty collaboration with Tarte Cosmetics.

The collection is full of items perfect for beauty lovers. The collection includes: Lele Pons x Tarte eye & cheek palette (\$35), a Lele Pons x Tarte lip gloss (\$20) and Lele Pons x Tarte tarteist PRO cruelty-free lashes (\$12). Metro spoke with Lele Pons all about what inspired this fabulous collection, and she said, "I really wanted to capture my go-to look. I don't want to say that I'm picky, but I definitely have a look that makes



Lele Pons posing with her Tarte Cosmetics eye and cheek palette, TARTE COSMETICS

me feel like me. You know when you're getting your makeup done & you're trying to tell them what you want? I want to look like me, but I also want to look like I had my makeup done! Everything here creates a look that I'm comfortable with - it feels natural, it's not too much but not too little. Like a happy medium."

This collection is perfect for those who prefer a natural look with a little bit of flair. The Lele Pons x Tarte eye & cheek palette is Tarte's well-loved formula that is infused with Amazonian clay. The palette is a combination of nine metallic and matte neutral bronze shades, perfect for an everyday look.

The palette also has a matte warm pink blush and rose gold highlighter. If you haven't tried the Tarte blush or highlighter formula, you're in for a treat. These products apply beautifully. Pons told Metro that if you are only able to pick up one thing from the collection, she said this was the item. Although it was hard

for her to choose, she told Metro, "Eyes are most important to me because they express who you are - if I'm going to focus on one thing in a look it's going to be the eyes, so I'd have the say the eye & cheek palette. Plus you can use it for daytime or a full glam night out look, so you'll get the most out of it!"

The lip gloss is a shade that Pons has deemed an essential, so much so that Pons said, "I can't leave my house without lip gloss - I always have this one on me. It's the perfect shade; I really wanted one that would look good on everyone by itself." This lip gloss formula is a rosy nude shade that nourishes and conditions the lips. The gloss is non-sticky and vegan. The formula also helps smooth the appearance of fine lines. The final item in the collection is some full and fluttery false lashes. Metro asked Pons for

her best piece of advice when it comes to applying false lashes, and she said, "I'm definitely not a makeup artist, but my beauty guru, Jose Figueroa, gave me a few great tips for how to apply them! He told me to place the lashes right above your lash line on the outer corners & then brush them through with a clean mascara wand, so they blend into my actual lashes and make my eyes look bigger."

Pons also added, "Big eyes & long lashes are probably what I'd say is my 'signature look,' so I'm really excited about the lashes too. They're cruelty-free & vegan, but what's really cool is that they get more dramatic in the center so they open up your eyes instead of closing them off like others that get dramatic in the corners." You can check out and order from Lele Pons' collection online now at Tarte.com.

ANTHONY WILLIAMS

urban Nutcracker

"'URBAN NUTCRACKER' MIGHT AS WELL BE CALLED 'THE BOSTON NUTCRACKER'."

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## NEWS

# U.S. diplomat says he followed Trump orders on Ukraine, points to Pompeo and Pence

Pence, Pompeo and Giuliani allegedly 'actively engaged.'

A senior U.S. diplomat said on Wednesday that President Donald Trump expressly ordered him and others to help a pressure campaign against Ukraine, and gave testimony in the impeachment inquiry that for the first time put the U.S. secretary of state and vice president at the heart of the controversy.

Gordon Sondland, the U.S. ambassador to the European Union, said he "followed the president's orders" to work with Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani to push Ukraine to carry out two investigations that would benefit Trump politically as he runs for re-election in November 2020.

Sondland's testimony was among the most sig-



U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland testifies before a House Intelligence Committee hearing as part of the impeachment inquiry into U.S. President Donald Trump on Capitol Hill in Washington. **REUTERS**

nificant in the four days of public hearings in the Democratic-led House of Representatives impeachment inquiry that has captivated Washington and threatens the presidency of Trump, a Republican.

The ambassador, a wealthy hotel entrepreneur and Trump donor, detailed Trump's ac-

tive participation in the Ukraine controversy. Sondland depicted Secretary of State Mike Pompeo as actively engaged in the efforts to get Ukraine to carry out the investigations, including one targeting Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden, and described Vice President Mike Pence as

aware of the efforts.

Going much further in describing the broad involvement of administration officials than he did in prior testimony behind closed doors, Sondland also made clear that he was a reluctant participant in the pressure campaign on Ukraine and that he personally opposed Trump's withholding of U.S. security aid.

"Everyone was in the loop. It was no secret," Sondland said.

Testifying to the House Intelligence Committee, Sondland said he told Pence that a freeze ordered by Trump of \$391 million in security aid to Ukraine appeared to be part of the pressure campaign. The aid was approved by Congress to help Ukraine fight Russia-backed separatists. In a statement, Pence's chief of staff denied that any such conversation occurred.

Trump, in a July 25 phone call, asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr

Zelensky to carry out two investigations. One involved Biden and his son Hunter, who had worked for Ukrainian energy company Burisma. The other involved a debunked conspiracy theory promoted by some Trump allies that Ukraine, not Russia, interfered in the 2016 U.S. election.

## \$391M

Sondland said he told Pence that a freeze ordered by Trump of \$391 million in security aid to Ukraine appeared to be part of the pressure campaign.

Democrats accuse Trump of abusing his power by using the security assistance and an offer to Zelensky of a prestigious visit to the White House as leverage to pressure a vulnerable U.S. ally to dig up dirt on domestic political rivals.

Sondland described Trump in May telling him along with Energy Secretary Rick Perry and then-U.S. special envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker to work with Giuliani — the former New York mayor who held no U.S. government job — on Ukraine policy.

"We did not want to work with Mr. Giuliani. Simply put, we played the hand we were dealt. We all understood that if we refused to work with Mr. Giuliani, we would lose an important opportunity to cement relations between the United States and Ukraine. So we followed the president's orders," Sondland said.

Sondland said the three worked "at the express direction of the president of the United States" with Giuliani, who at the time was actively trying to get Ukraine to conduct the politically motivated investigations. **REUTERS**



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LGBT themed clothing to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall uprising, considered the birth of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) movement is seen on display at the Levi's Store at Times Square in New York City, U.S. **REUTERS**

## Barriers exist even in accessing everyday products.

From breast-flattening binders and prosthetic penises to friendly beauticians, transgender shoppers often struggle to find the products they need — but a growing number of trans-owned businesses are tapping into this long-ignored market.

Few businesses know how to cater to trans

consumers, said Siobhan Reilly, who set up Electrolysis by Siobhan in the northern English city of Manchester in 2017 after she and her friends had distressing hair removal experiences.

"When it comes to accessing a service like mine, that can be a difficult or dysphoric experience at the best of times," said Reilly, with ignorance and transphobia adding to the discomfort of having a needle put into hair follicles.

"Having an electrologist who is a trans woman and has faced some of the challenges of accessing hair removal can be reassuring and make the process easier," said Reilly, who offers cheap treatment to trans people who cannot afford higher rates.

As the world marks Transgender Day of Remembrance on Wednesday in tribute to those murdered owing to transphobia, trans people also face numerous barriers in

# Frustration drives trans consumers to create sell-out brands

accessing everyday products and services that others take for granted.

Some 600,000 people in Britain identify as trans, according to Stonewall rights group, and some 1.4 million in the United States, the Williams Institute think-tank estimates.

Awareness of trans people has risen as celebrities such as Caitlyn Jenner and Laverne Cox have become mainstream, but sexual and gender minorities still face widespread discrimination at work, school and in shops.

Using appropriate gender pronouns, not asking invasive questions and being aware of sensitive areas of conversation are basic requirements for businesses serving trans consumers.

"It seemed to me that training as an electrologist and setting up a clinic

was the most sustainable impact I could have," said Reilly, whose next goal is to train more trans electrologists in other cities.

**"If you don't really understand the pain points, how can you adequately provide solutions?"**

Scout Rose

With high street stores offering very limited options for trans men and non-binary people seeking sexy lingerie or stand-to-pee devices to support their transition, many go online.

But the experience is often patchy, with many people relying on advice from YouTube bloggers on how to achieve their desired body shape, such as using duct tape to tuck their penis between their legs, or relying on low-quality product images.

"People often buy binders and prosthetics from message boards or off social media groups, and it's actually startlingly common to hear about people being ripped off," said Scout Rose, founder of the online store Trans-guy Supply.

"Trans people are better positioned to meet the needs of other trans people because we have firsthand knowledge of the issues they are facing," said Rose, who sells everything from packers to create a bulge in the wearer's pants to shaving sets. **REUTERS**

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# Consumers buying marijuana at \$1 mil per day pace

In the first year of legal sales in Massachusetts, cannabis consumers bought an average of more than \$1 million worth of marijuana products each day.

Since the first two marijuana retailers opened in Northampton and Leicester on Nov. 20, 2018, 31 more stores have opened and licensed stores have generated \$393.7 million in gross sales, the Cannabis Control Commission announced.

"Marijuana Retailers and consumers should be commended for participating in an extremely smooth roll out of the legal adult-use cannabis industry in Massachusetts for the first year," CCC Chairman Steven Hoffman said in statement. "Hundreds of millions of dollars in sales are one measure of success, but I am even prouder of the way in which Marijuana Establishments have worked with the Commission to gain and pre-



ISTOCK

## \$393.7M

Since the first two marijuana retailers opened in Northampton and Leicester on Nov. 20, 2018, 31 more stores have opened and licensed stores have generated \$393.7 million in gross sales, the Cannabis Control Commission announced.

serve compliance with our regulations and patrons continue to inform themselves about the law and their responsibilities when they visit Massachusetts stores."

Though the CCC brought new retailers online in a steady rhythm, the first year of cannabis sales was not entirely smooth.

One of the early stores to open had to stop taking non-medical customers when it ran out of product, which the CCC said was caused by "improper inventory management practices" on behalf of the store. The retailer closest to Boston has dealt with a persistent shortage of flower, citing a backlog at the testing labs — which one lab has denied.

STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

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**Taurus** Update the way you do things. An adjustment will lead to new opportunities, as well as a positive lifestyle change.



**Gemini** Slow down and think. Don't feel pressured to do something you aren't ready to do. Stick to facts and don't believe everything you hear.



**Cancer** Set a strict budget and schedule, and don't change your course of action until you are satisfied. A positive change is heading your way.



**Leo** Personal growth, physical health and romance should be at the top of your to-do list. The more you discover about yourself, the easier it will be to make better choices.



**Virgo** Take control and leave nothing to chance. Don't delegate important tasks. It's up to you to make sure that you get what you want. Live a healthy lifestyle.



**Libra** Deal with domestic matters carefully. Refuse to let someone take advantage of you or dump their responsibilities in your lap.



**Scorpio** Set up interviews and update personal documents, contracts or financial investments. If you take care of business, you'll be free to make important lifestyle adjustments.



**Sagittarius** Don't believe everything you hear. Stick to what and who you know, and focus on taking care of unfinished business.



**Capricorn** Mull over your options and position yourself to take advantage of the best possibility. If you enthusiastically contribute what you have to offer, it will impress someone who can help you.



**Aquarius** Finish what you start. Stick to your plan, regardless of what others do or say. If you don't agree with something, speak up.



**Pisces** Don't feel compelled to make a choice if you are uncertain. Don't give in to someone who is being manipulative or trying to take advantage of you. Be true to your beliefs. EUGENIA LAST

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## SPORTS

# Patriots ready to face Dallas

3 things to watch for as Pats look to move to 10-1.



MATT BURKE  
mattburke@metro.us

Here are three things to watch for this Sunday as the 9-1 Patriots host the 6-4 Cowboys (4:25 p.m., FOX).

## Containing Zeke

The Patriots defense will be tested once again this week as Dallas brings the league leader in passing yards so far this season, Dak Prescott, and a running back that can be, on any given Sunday, the best RB in the NFL — to Foxboro. Ezekiel Elliott has

posted five games this season in which he has gone over 100 yards on the ground, and the Patriots defense has been susceptible to big plays from elite rushers. Browns running back Nick Chubb chugged along for 131 yards against the Pats last month, and Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson scampered for 61 yards and two touchdowns against New England three weeks ago.

The Pats D did do a nice job on Eagles rookie back Miles Sanders last week, holding him to just 38 yards on 11 carries — but most everyone would agree that Elliott is on a different level.

## Souring on Sony

It could be another frustrating afternoon for Tom Brady considering that Dallas has the sev-



Sony Michel is far overdue for a monster game.

GETTY IMAGES

enth best pass defense in the league (216.9 yards per game), so the Pats may need this game to be a Sony Michel special as Dallas' run defense is

mediocre at best (15th in NFL, 105.2 yards per game).

Michel has had a highly disappointing year so far as he doesn't

have a 100-yard outing to his name, and he is a full-fledged liability in the passing game (he had two drops against the Eagles). Maybe the return of left

tackle Isaiah Wynn will help shore up both the pass protection for Brady and the running holes for Michel.

## Belichick the brain

The Cowboys actually match up pretty well with the Patriots roster-wise, but the glaring mismatch here is between head coaches with Bill Belichick set to go down as the greatest of all-time, and Jason Garrett set to go down as the greatest Jerry Jones lapdog of all-time.

The Patriots typically take care of business against coaches that are lucky to have a job, and the Cowboys have struggled this season against legit teams. Here are all the teams the Cowboys have beat this season: Giants, Redskins, Dolphins, Eagles, Giants, Lions. And here are all of their losses: Saints, Packers, Jets, Vikings.

# GRONK WATCH IS MERCIFULLY OVER... FOR NOW

It's official. "Gronk Watch" is over.

For now.

Rob Gronkowski has until Nov. 30 — the day before the New England Patriots' Week 13 game in Houston — to file for reinstatement if he wants to play this season. But he made it pretty clear in an "announcement" on Tuesday that we won't be seeing him on the field anytime soon.

Last weekend, Gronkowski teased a "big announcement" on social media. And on Tuesday morning, he released a two-minute video in which he revealed news of "Gronk Beach": a party in Miami the day before Super Bowl LIV.

This would mark the second time that Gronkowski failed to deliver a Patriots return with a purposely hyped-up announcement. The previous announcement he made came back in August, when he revealed his partnership with a CBD company.

Throughout the season, Gronkowski has kept the door open to playing football again. Well, now

## OPINION

### DANNY PICARD

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we know why he refuses to slam that door shut. He uses it to create buzz around his personal business ventures. Whether it's an investment in CBD, or an open-bar beach bash in Miami, Gronk Inc. has decided that using football is better than playing football. And by using football, he's also using football fans — specifically, Patriots fans — in the process.

From a business perspective, it's a brilliant strategy. Many people believe that Gronkowski — at 30 years old — left the game far too early. There's also the idea of a public negotiation taking place between Gronkowski and Bill Belichick, as in, Gronkowski and his agent Drew Rosenhaus are finally sticking to their guns about wanting to be paid for what Gronkowski is: one of the most dangerous offensive weapons in the history of the NFL.

So why not keep that door open and continue to pull at the heart strings of every Patriots fan in the world, if it means you'll have everyone's attention when it comes time to drop the hammer on the next non-football-related business venture? As long as Gronkowski keeps that door open, publicly, he'll have the football world eating out of his hand the next time he decides to make an announcement.

From a football perspective, the more time he spends teasing a return and then not delivering on that tease, the more people — in New



Rob Gronkowski danced with the Laker Girls Tuesday night.

GETTY IMAGES

England, at least — will become frustrated with his previously-brilliant business-like approach. Gronkowski didn't lose any fans this week with the "Gronk Beach" announcement, but he definitely didn't garner the same sympathy he received after his CBD promotional ad over the summer.

The Patriots offense

could use Gronkowski's services right now, perhaps more than ever before. Instead of answering the call to possibly play in Super Bowl LIV, he's choosing to throw a bender the day before, putting "Gronk Watch" to bed, for now.

For now? Yes, for now. What, you think Gronkowski isn't going to tease a return to the Pa-

triot in the offseason? Of course he's going to. It's his new business model. Heck, he's already laying the ground work for the publicity of his next announcement.

"I wouldn't say 'never coming back,'" Gronkowski told ESPN on Tuesday. "I'm 30 years old. I'm young. I still stay fit, still watch the game whenever I can, still enjoy it. I'm feeling good, but you know, one year off could possibly be the case. Or maybe two years off, man."

Is that Gronk Inc. or Gronk the Patriot talking? Perhaps we'll find out when he announces his new reality TV series "Gronk Life" debuting next fall.

Either way, whether you're frustrated with Gronkowski or not, I'm just here to tell you he'll be making another announcement in the offseason.

And before he does, whether we like it or not, and whether we admit it or not, we'll all be back on "Gronk Watch" once again like the suckers he knows we are.



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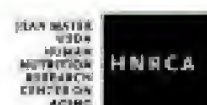
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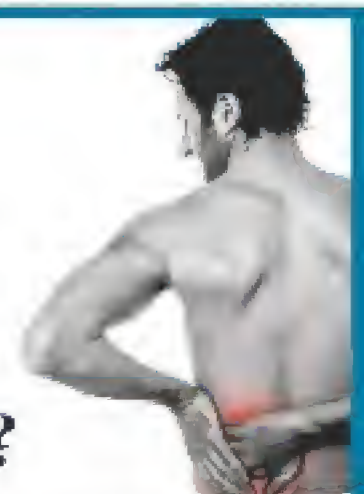
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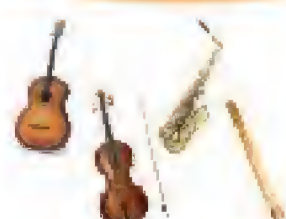
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### DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

#### ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Rosalinda Berrios and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. 50 §3901 (et seq):

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee, in trust for the registered certificate holders of First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-FF5, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-FF5, claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Boston (Allston), numbered 34-36 Hano Street, given by Rosalinda Berrios to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for First Franklin, a Division of NAT City Bank of IN, its successors and assigns, dated January 27, 2006, and recorded in Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 38935, Page 272, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before December 16, 2019 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on November 4, 2019  
Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
(19-008336 Orlans)

11/21/19

### THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

(SEAL)

LAND COURT

Docket No. 19 SM 005344

### DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

#### ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: John C. Jones and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

U.S. Bank N.A., as Trustee, successor by merger to Firststar Bank, N.A. successor in interest to Firststar Bank Milwaukee, N.A., as Trustee for Salomon Brothers Mortgage Securities VII, Inc. Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 1998-NC7 claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Roxbury (Boston), numbered 20 Woodville Street, given by John C. Jones to Option One Mortgage Corporation, dated April 24, 1998, and recorded in Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 22392, Page 72, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before December 23, 2019, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on November 5, 2019.  
Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
13-011836 / FC02

11/21/19

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### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

(SEAL)

LAND COURT

Docket 19 SM 005290

### DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

#### ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Isaiah J. Spotts, Individually and as Personal Representative of the Estate of Weston G. Spotts; Weston R. Spotts; Nikia S. Spotts and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF11 Master Participation Trust, claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Boston, numbered 202-204 Cornell Street aka 204 Cornell Street, given by Weston Spotts to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for American Mortgage Network, Inc., DBA American Mortgage Network of MA, a DE Corp., its successors and assigns, dated December 16, 2006, and registered in Suffolk County Registry District of the Land Court as Document Number 00730672, noted on Certificate of Title Number 110839, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before December 16, 2019 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on November 4, 2019  
Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
(19-009146 Orlans)

11/21/19

### CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

Docket No. SU19C0560CA

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

In the matter of: Taylor Lauren Graham

Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

(617) 788-8300

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Taylor Lauren Graham of Allston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Taylor Graham Lautzenhiser

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/29/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 07, 2019

*[Signature]*  
Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court



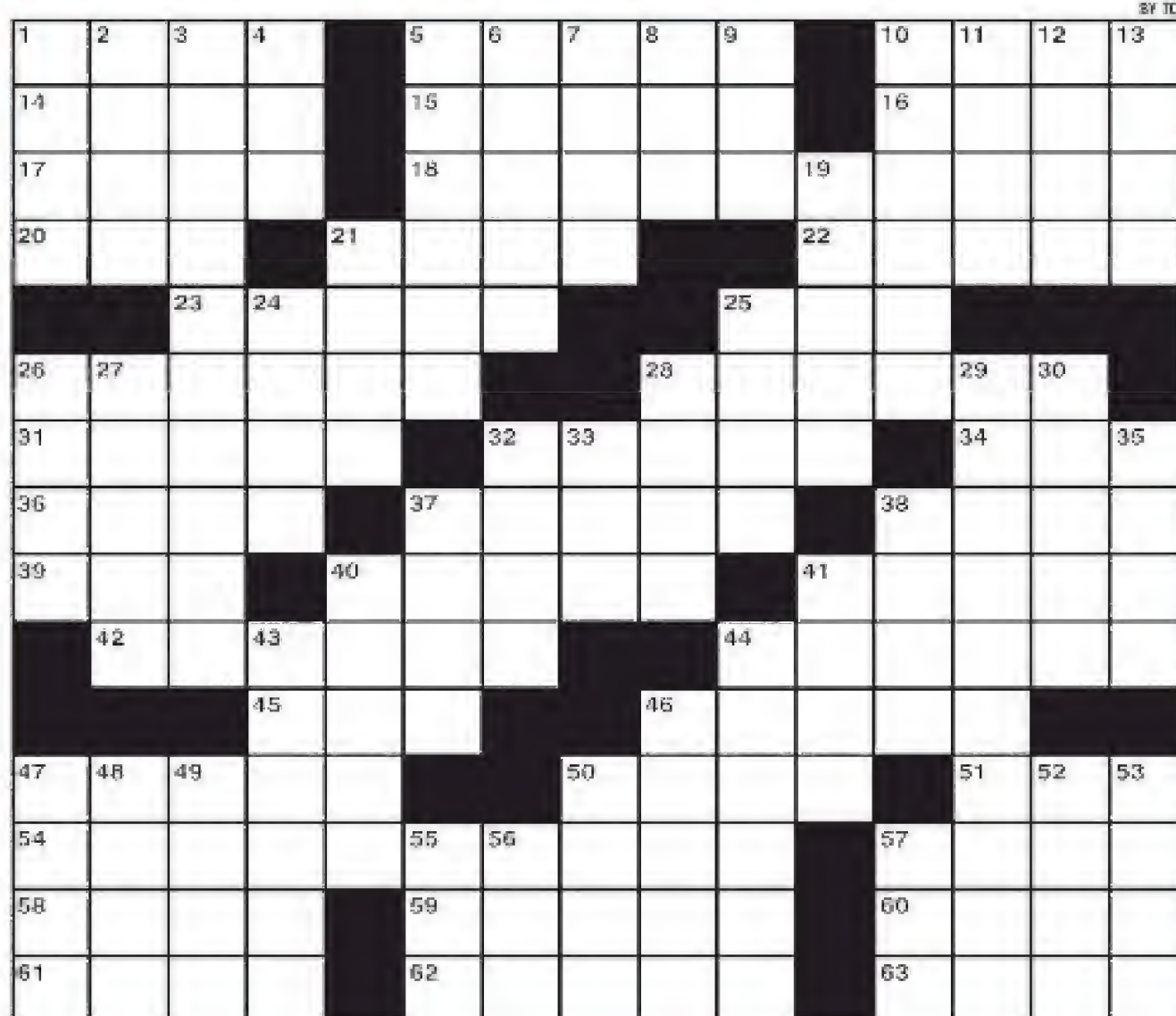
## GAMES

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at metro.us/games

## ACROSS

1 High chair accessories  
5 Crab Louie or coleslaw  
10 Venerable British historian  
14 Put to \_\_; drive away  
15 Showy feather  
16 Bug spray  
17 Askew; crooked  
18 \_\_ for; signed up to join  
20 TV's "Major \_\_"  
21 Untainted  
22 Easy to reach  
23 Kick out, as a tenant  
25 Peach stone  
26 Pointed tooth  
28 See the \_\_; take a tour  
31 Initial phase  
32 Sponge off others  
34 Chinese \_\_; deciduous tree  
36 Winter flakes  
37 Seal up cracks  
38 The Bee Gees, e.g.  
39 Twain's Sawyer  
40 Wilkes \_\_, PA  
41 Small skin openings  
42 \_\_ for; craves  
44 Cuban exports  
45 "Gosh!"  
46 \_\_ control; wild  
47 Be on the same page  
50 Spew forth  
51 Octopus secretion  
54 Skinniest  
57 Backed by facts  
58 Meghan, to Prince George  
59 "Same for me!"  
60 Actor's award

## metro.us/crossword

Powered by  
Arkadium

61 Team in the NBA  
62 Sudden muscle cramp  
63 Seizes

## DOWN

1 Staple alternative  
2 Nebraska's neighbor  
3 Too heavy; oppressive  
4 Piggy's home  
5 Christmas tree, perhaps  
6 Open-eyed  
7 Racing sled  
8 "What Kind of Fool \_\_?"  
9 Start of Iowa's capital  
10 Out of \_\_; panting  
11 Deserve  
12 Gave up the ghost

13 Whirlpool  
19 Leg part  
21 1/8 of a gallon  
24 Feast one's eyes on  
25 Choose  
26 Price to be paid  
27 Pester  
28 White fish  
29 Solid ground  
30 More devious  
32 One of the planets  
33 " \_\_ Father, Who art in heaven..."  
35 Green velvety ground cover  
37 Charlie Chaplin's prop  
38 Small African nation

40 Raise AKC dogs  
41 \_\_ helmet; safari hat  
43 Representatives  
44 Usual practice  
46 Removes from power  
47 As strong \_\_ ox  
48 Elmer's adhesive  
49 Money for the landlord  
50 \_\_ kick out of; enjoy  
52 Deadened  
53 Islets off Florida  
55 Harris & McMahon  
56 " \_\_ Van Winkle"  
57 Reasonable bedtime

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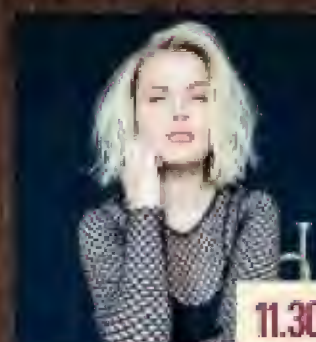
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11.30 LAMONT PRICE

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